

WALPOLE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Walpole Parish Council held at the Community Centre, Summer Close, Walpole St Andrew on Thursday 9th January 2020 at from 7.00pm.

Present : Chairman – Richard Green,
Councillors – Andy Bliss, Adrian Eveleigh, William Brooks, Linda Matthews, Heather Smith,
Richard Blunt and Claire Robinson
Clerk – Caroline Boyden(CB) and Emma Bateman
Borough Cllrs Julian Kirk & Richard Blunt
Three Members of the Public

Welcome from Chairman Cllr. Green to all and the new clerk, Caroline Boyden

1. Apologies – to accept apologies and reasons for absence
Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr B Matthews, C. Campion and County Cllr S. Squires
2. To remind all councillors of their duty to abide by the Code of Conduct
Cllr Green reminded all councillors of their duty to abide by the Code of Conduct.
3. Declarations of Interest of any items on the agenda and to consider any requests for dispensations.
None
4. Public Participation - to allow public participation (3 minutes allowed per speaker, up to a maximum of 15 minutes in total)
 - a. A wooden post has been placed outside the Parish Hall, taking up a parking space and requires removal.
 - b. New signage for the footpath shows “Restricted Byway” and should be just Byway.
 - c. West Drove North issues continue.a & b to be discussed under Highways via Cllr. Eveleigh.
5. Minutes – to approve the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday December 2019, having been previously circulated were proposed as a being a true record of the meeting. Proposed Cllr Eveleigh and seconded by Cllr Bliss. Unanimously agreed.
6. Co-option – following an earlier interview, pre-Council Meeting, with Claire Robinson, acceptance to the committee was proposed by Cllr. L. Matthews seconded by Cllr. Brooks and unanimously approved. Cllr Green formally welcomed Cllr C. Robinson.
7. Matters Arising – to record matters arising from the last meeting:
Cllr Bliss regarding proposed whiteboard to follow up.
8. To receive reports:
County and Borough Councillors reports –
 - a. Cllr Blunt recommended the West Norfolk Directory & NHS update should have a link on the Website and Crier. CB to provide links to Peter Luck and Cllr. L. Matthews. ACTION CB
The Borough have received an award for being the top Borough promoting custom/Self build housing.
 - b. Cllr Squire had sent a report which was read out by CB: We haven't had any meetings since the end of November so there's not a lot to report. Apart from that we have adopted our new environmental policy which requires us to be Carbon Neutral by 2030 and also, we have pledged to plant a net gain of 1 million trees in Norfolk over the next 5 years, which is very exciting. We're hoping to work with landowners and parishes etc who have land and would be willing to use it for trees. It was my motion to council, so I'm thrilled they've taken up the baton. We have full council again on the 20th January and this month I'm asking the council to investigate the

difference in education attainment between boys and girls in Norfolk and to introduce some pilot schemes to improve boys results. I'm not entirely sure how well that one will be received!

Although one thing, we launched our Balloon & Lantern Release Charter some time ago, and would encourage everyone, parish councils, schools and individuals to sign up. To agree not to release balloons or lanterns on their land and to encourage use of alternatives. There are posters etc to print off too. Link:

<https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/policies-and-strategies/natural-environment-policies/sky-lanterns-and-balloons>

9. Councillors' reports of villagers' concerns, highway issues and street lighting faults:

- a. Damaged verge next to the manhole on Chalk Road – outside Caravelle CB to contact Rangers ACTION CB
- b. West Drove North – Overgrown hedge and water retaining very large & long hole in the road now considered very dangerous. CB to contact Highways and follow up. (NOTE. See email 10.1.20 from Highways) ACTION CB
- c. Community Centre Report: Meeting will be held next week and the replacement of the projector with a whiteboard will be discussed.

10. Community Centre report – Nothing to report

11. Village Crier, Social Media & Website Editors reports

Village Crier – working on the February edition

Social Media – no report this month, logo next agenda – carry forward to February Meeting.

Website – December views were 378, with the following most popular - Home: 135, Crier: 51, Latest News: 28, Parish Council: 22, Community Centre: 22, Useful Info: 11, Contact Us: 11. Minutes: 10, Walking: 9

12. To receive updates regarding footpaths and circular walks:

- a. Cllr Eveleigh reported that the new footpath signs had been set up only to be taken down as the wording should state "Byway" not "Restricted Byway"
- b. The cost to downgrade Green Lanes would be £70k so not appropriate.
- c. 2 signs in Weatherholme, Eastlands Bank had been turned around. It should be reiterated that it is an offence to remove or damage signage.
- d. The Circular Walk signage will be updated.
- e. Salt's Lane (Britina) / Folgate Lane, a concrete "Lego" type wall has been placed on the footpath to stop vehicles, but it was mentioned that this did not affect horse riding or walking.
- f. Follens Road (Fallgate House) to Eastlands Bank footpath is overgrown and Cllr Eveleigh has asked for this to be cut down.

13. Report from the Community Fund Projects Working Group – nothing to add this month.

14. Planning Application for consultation:

Ref 19/02193/F – removal of condition 2 of planning permission 2/89/3011/F to remove agricultural occupancy at Mansefield, Marsh Road, Walpole St. Andrew – a full discussion took place and it was agreed to object to this application due to the fact that it had not been for sale for very long, no for sale signage outside the property. Proposed Cllr Smith, seconded Cllr Bliss. Motion carried with 5 for and 2 abstain including Cllr. Blunt. ACTION CB

15. Finance - to approve payments and to record receipts

a. Payments for approval

		<i>Ex VAT</i>	<i>VAT</i>	<i>Inc VAT</i>
K&M Lighting	Streetlight maintenance Jan 20	22.95	4.59	27.54
WPFRT	Hall Hire – November & December	73.93		73.93
HMRC	PAYE	26.00		26.00
Mrs E Bateman	Salary and Clerical Expenses	282.41		282.41
EE	Phone	16.43	3.29	19.72
E.ON	Energy charge	60.02	3.00	63.02
TOTALS		429.81	10.98	440.7

Payments: proposed Cllr Bliss / Seconded Cllr. Smith, unanimously approved.

15. b. Receipts - None

16. Scribe accounting system discussed following information sent by CB. Agreed to go ahead with this system.
Proposed Cllr Bliss, seconded Cllr. Eveleigh. Unanimously approved. CB to go ahead with implementation.

17. Online Banking briefly discussed and CB to send out information. Add to Agenda for February Meeting
ACTION CB

18. a. Parish Precept – to consider items for inclusion in the Parish Precept and Budget for 2020/21:
Agreed a 2.2% increase – proposed by Cllr Green, seconded by Cllr. Bliss
ACTION CB

b. 20/21 Budget agreed – proposed by Cllr Brooks, seconded by Cllr Bliss

19 Play Park: to discuss the quotation from Fenland Leisure Products at the February meeting

20. Grass Cutting – Cllr Bliss has met with the CGM Group (East Anglia) Ltd., and they have quoted, Second quote from Trevor Blackamore. CB has a contact and will find out if they are interested in quoting.
ACTION AB/CB

21. Dog Fouling stickers have been renewed.

22. Correspondence – to receive items for information

a. Letter from The Speed watch Team regarding White Gates – add to next agenda. In hand with Cllr. Bliss.

23. To receive items for the next agenda

Walpole St. Andrew Churchyard – Eastern wall repair to be discussed.

24. Emma Bateman was thanked for all her hard work and commitment as Parish Clerk.

Date and Time of Next Meeting – Thursday 13th February 2020 at 7.00pm in the Community Centre, Summer Close, Walpole St Andrew, PE14 7JW.

Meeting closed at 20.40pm.